FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 22, 2002 CONTACT: Milissa Reierson

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NASHVILLE –Tennessee's July unemployment rate of 4.9 percent, up from 4.8 percent in June, was released August 15. County unemployment rates released today showed that 47 county rates were up, 42 county rates were down, and six remained unchanged over the month.

Williamson County, at 2.7 percent, down from 3.1 percent, registered the state's lowest county unemployment rate. Clay County at 15.4 percent, up from 8.7 percent, reported the state's highest jobless rate.

Knox County was 3.0 percent, down from 3.1 percent. Hamilton County was 3.9 percent, down from 4.3 percent, while Davidson County reported 4.1 percent, down from 4.4 percent in June. Shelby County reported the highest metropolitan rate, 5.2 percent, down from 5.5 percent.

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NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor-figures

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